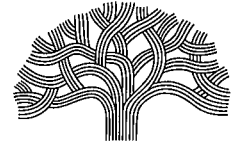


CITY OF OAKLAND



LIONEL J. WILSON BUILDING • 150 FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA, SUITE 3354 • OAKLAND, CA 94612

Administrative Offices
Oakland Fire Department

(510) 238-3856
FAX (510) 238-7924
TDD (510) 238-3254

February 26, 2020

To: City Auditor Courtney Ruby, City of Oakland

Subject: Chief Darin White's Response to the City Auditor's Controlled Substances Investigation

Today's City Auditor report revealed a failure on the part of Oakland Fire Department's Medical Services Division leadership to provide proper oversight and best practices for the storage and handling of controlled substances. While the Auditor's report did not find any misuse of controlled substances, the Division's failure to adequately safeguard and secure controlled substances is clear and requires deliberate action to correct.

Upon learning of the City Auditor's findings, Chief Darin White immediately placed the responsible staff on administrative leave. Additionally, OFD has reached out to the County Emergency Medical Authority, the Drug Enforcement Agency, and other partner agencies to immediately assist in the implementation of best practices and the Auditor's recommendations.

Chief Darin White made the following statement regarding the City Auditor's Report:

"The City Whistleblower Program is designed to identify failures, inefficiencies, fraud and other unpermitted activities in the workplace. Clearly, our personnel must assume full responsibility for their failure to follow best practices involving proper acquisition, distribution and disposal of controlled substances. We will do everything in our authority to identify and implement best practices and ensure staff receive the necessary training and ongoing oversight required moving forward."